

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for selecting suppliers in a supply chain management framework,  
2 comprising:  
3 a) receiving data from at least one store of a supply chain utilizing a network, the  
4 data relating to the sale of goods by the at least one store;  
5 b) generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering goods from a  
6 distributor of the supply chain;  
7 c) receiving supplier information from a management headquarters utilizing the  
8 network, wherein the supplier information includes a plurality of suppliers  
9 selected to supply the store with the goods;  
10 d) using the supplier information to transmit the electronic order form to the selected  
11 suppliers of the supply chain utilizing the network.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic order form is generated by the at  
2 least one store.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic order form is generated by the  
2 distributor.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the suppliers are selected using the data.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the suppliers are selected using performance  
2 information collected regarding the suppliers.

- 1 7. A system for selecting suppliers in a supply chain management framework,
- 2 comprising:
- 3 a) logic for receiving data from at least one store of a supply chain utilizing a
- 4 network, the data relating to the sale of goods by the at least one store;
- 5 b) logic for generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering goods
- 6 from a distributor of the supply chain;
- 7 c) logic for receiving supplier information from a management headquarters
- 8 utilizing the network, wherein the supplier information includes a plurality of
- 9 suppliers selected to supply the store with the goods;
- 10 d) logic for using the supplier information to transmit the electronic order form to
- 11 the selected suppliers of the supply chain utilizing the network.

1 8. The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.

1 9. The system of claim 7, wherein the electronic order form is generated by the at  
2 least one store.

1 10. The system of claim 7, wherein the electronic order form is generated by the  
2 distributor.

1 11. The system of claim 7, wherein the suppliers are selected using the data.

1 12. The system of claim 7, wherein the suppliers are selected using performance  
2 information collected regarding the suppliers.

- 1 13. A computer program product for selecting suppliers in a supply chain
- 2 management framework, comprising:
- 3 a) computer code for receiving data from at least one store of a supply chain
- 4 utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of goods by the at least one store;
- 5 b) computer code for generating an electronic order form based on the data for
- 6 ordering goods from a distributor of the supply chain;

- 7 c) computer code for receiving supplier information from a management  
8 headquarters utilizing the network, wherein the supplier information includes a  
9 plurality of suppliers selected to supply the store with the goods;  
10 d) computer code for using the supplier information to transmit the electronic order  
11 form to the selected suppliers of the supply chain utilizing the network.

1 14. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network includes the  
2 Internet.

1 15. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the electronic order form is  
2 generated by the at least one store.

1 16. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the electronic order form is  
2 generated by the distributor.

1 17. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the suppliers are selected  
2 using the data.

1 18. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the suppliers are selected  
2 using performance information collected regarding the suppliers.